



[OMB Number 1123-0013]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection of eComments Requested;
United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund Application Form**

AGENCY: Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

ACTION: 30-day notice.

SUMMARY: The United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, will be submitting the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register on May 31, 2022, allowing for a 60-day comment period. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for 30 days until [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have additional comments especially on the estimated public burden or associated response time, suggestions, or need a copy of the proposed information collection instrument with instructions or additional information, please contact either Mary Patrice Brown, Special Master, United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, or Jennifer Bickford, Chief, Program Management and Training Unit, Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section, Criminal Division, U.S. Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530-0001, telephone (202) 353-2046. Written comments and/or suggestions can also be sent to the Office of Management and Budget, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Attention Department of Justice Desk Officer, Washington, DC 20503 or sent to OIRA_submissions@omb.eop.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Written comments and suggestions from the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information are encouraged. Your comments should address one or more of the following four points:

- Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund, Criminal Division, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Evaluate whether and if so how the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected can be enhanced; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

OVERVIEW OF THIS INFORMATION COLLECTION:

1. *Type of Information Collection:* Revision of a currently approved collection.
2. *The Title of the Form/Collection:* Application Form for the United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Fund (USVSST Fund).
3. *The agency form number, if any, and the applicable component of the Department sponsoring the collection:* There is no agency form number for this collection. The applicable component within the Department of Justice is the Criminal Division, USVSST Fund.
4. *Affected public who will be asked or required to respond, as well as a brief abstract:*
Primary: Individuals or households.
Abstract: The USVSST Fund was established to provide compensation to certain individuals who were injured as a result of acts of international terrorism by a state

sponsor of terrorism. Under the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act (Act), 34 U.S.C. 20144(c), as amended, an eligible claimant is (1) a U.S. person, as defined in 34 U.S.C. 20144(j)(8), with a final judgment issued by a U.S. district court under state or federal law against a state sponsor of terrorism and arising from an act of international terrorism, for which the foreign state was found not immune under provisions of the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, codified at 28 U.S.C. 1605A or 1605(a)(7) (as such section was in effect on January 27, 2008); (2) a U.S. person, as defined in 34 U.S.C. 20144(j)(8), who was taken and held hostage from the United States Embassy in Tehran, Iran, during the period beginning November 4, 1979, and ending January 20, 1981; or the spouse and child of that U.S. person at that time, who is also identified as a member of the proposed class in case number 1:00-CV-03110 (EGS) of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia; or (3) the personal representative of a deceased individual in either of those two categories.

The information collected from the USVSST Fund's Application Form will be used to determine whether applicants are eligible for compensation from the USVSST Fund, and if so, the amount of compensation to be awarded. The Application Form consists of parts related to eligibility and compensation. The eligibility parts seek the information required by the Act to determine whether a claimant is eligible for payment from the USVSST Fund, including information related to participation in federal lawsuits against a state sponsor of terrorism under the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act. The compensation parts seek the information required by the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act, as amended, to determine the amount of compensation for which the claimant is eligible. Specifically, the compensation parts seek information regarding the amount of compensatory damages awarded the claimant in a final judgment as well as any payments from sources other than the USVSST Fund, as defined in 34 U.S.C. 20144(j)(6), that the claimant received, is entitled to receive, or is scheduled to

receive, as a result of the act of international terrorism by a state sponsor of terrorism.

The Application Form was revised with formatting changes and removal of certain information requests to minimize respondents' collection burden. There are changes in the revised Application Form, but it contains the same information regarding eligibility and compensation.

The USVSST Fund may require an eligible claimant to supplement his or her application by submitting additional forms. These additional supplementary forms include information related to: (1) An acknowledgment and certification by applicants and their attorneys regarding the statutory provision on the amount of attorneys' fees; (2) an authorization for the USVSST Fund to communicate with individuals identified by an applicant regarding his or her claim; (3) a certification of the personal representative of a deceased individual regarding the USVSST Fund award for the decedent's estate; (4) a claimant's decision to change an attorney or representative; (5) a hearing request upon receipt of a decision denying the claim in whole or in part; and (6) electronic payment information.

5. *An estimate of the total number of respondents and the amount of time estimated for an average respondent to respond:* It is estimated that 700 respondents may complete the Application Form. It is estimated that respondents will complete the paper form or the electronic form in an average of 1.25 hours.
6. *An estimate of the total public burden (in hours) associated with the collection:* The estimated public burden associated with this collection is 875 hours.

If additional information is required contact: Robert Houser, Department Clearance Officer, Policy and Planning Staff, Justice Management Division, United States Department of Justice, Two Constitution Square, 145 N Street NE, 3E.206, Washington, DC 20530.

Date: September 16, 2022.

Robert Houser,

Department Clearance Officer,
Policy and Planning Staff,
Office of the Chief Information Officer,
U.S. Department of Justice.

Billing Code: 4410-14

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